I HEREBY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

BY: Sleryl R. Neumon DATE: May 14, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Hideaki OHNO §

8 §

Conf. No.: 7209 § Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

§

Appln. No.: 10/727,733 § Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

§

Filing Date: December 4, 2003 § Attorney Docket No.: 8861-488US

§ (P32964-01)

Title: FLUID DYNAMIC BEARING AND MAGNETIC DISK APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Simultaneously with the filing of the Response to Notice to File Missing Parts with which this Preliminary Amendment is being filed, and prior to the calculation of the filing fee, Applicant submits herewith a Substitute Specification and claims.

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